

THE CENTURION

DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

25 The Green - Old State House, Dover, Delaware 19901
Telephone (302) 739-2792 or
Toll Free 1-800-344-9900 (in state)
Internet Address: <http://www.state.de.us>

Thomas R. Carper
Governor

Edward J. Freel
Secretary of State

Charles A. Kashner
Commission Chairman

Antonio Davila
Executive Director

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THE VA STARS & STRIPES HEALTHCARE NETWORK IS NOW A TRICARE PROVIDER!

What is TRICARE and who is eligible for the program? TRICARE is the Defense Department's regional managed health care program which replaces the former CHAMPUS program. Those eligible to participate in TRICARE include: family members of those on active-duty; military retirees and their eligible family members; and surviving eligible family members of deceased active or retired service members. The VA Stars & Stripes Healthcare Network has recently signed a contract to provide care to these beneficiaries.

How will the VA Stars & Stripes Healthcare Network participate? Most healthcare facilities in the VA Stars & Stripes Healthcare Network now have the opportunity to participate in providing care to TRICARE beneficiaries. Care will be provided where capacity exists and under the condition that providing this care will not interfere or delay care for eligible veterans.

What services will the VA provide? Services provided to TRICARE beneficiaries may vary from one facility to another. In general, however, we will provide primary and specialty care, inpatient treatment, ambulatory surgery and other outpatient care.

How will this benefit veterans? Revenue generated by serving TRICARE beneficiaries will be retained by the VA Stars & Stripes Healthcare Network. This represents an external source of funds that will be reinvested in the care of eligible veterans at our facilities.

Where can I find more information about TRICARE? Just call any medical center listed below and ask to speak to the TRICARE Coordinator. Information on TRICARE Northeast in Region 1 can be found on the World Wide Web at www.sierramilitary.com or through the toll free number (888) 999-5195. General information about the TRICARE program is located at the national website: www.ochampus.mil.

Altoona, PA: (814) 943-8164
Butler, PA: (724) 287-4781/(800) 362-8262
Coatesville, PA: (610) 384-7711
Erie, PA: (814) 868-8661/(800) 274-8387
Philadelphia, PA: (215) 823-5800/(800) 949-1001
Wilmington, DE: (302) 994-2511/(800) 461-8262

Wilkes-Barre, PA: (717) 824-3521
Lebanon, PA: (717) 272-6621/(800) 409-8771
VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System:
University Drive Division: (412) 365-6000/(800) 309-8398
Highland Drive Division: (412) 365-4900/(800) 647-6220
Aspinwall Division: (412) 688-6000

THOUGHT FOR THE QUARTER

The only thing in life achieved without effort is failure.

VETERANS' HOMECOMING 1998

On October 28, 1998, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., you will have the opportunity to learn about **all** of your benefits as a veteran. The VA Medical and Regional Office Center in Wilmington, DE, is hosting a **major** event – **VETERANS' HOMECOMING 1998** at the Nur Temple, Route 13, New Castle, DE.

Do you want to know how to:

- Enroll for VA healthcare benefits?
- Quality for a VA or FHA home loan?
- Start a small business?
- Obtain veteran preference for a federal job?
- Apply for Social Security benefits?
- Apply for veterans' automobile license plates?
- Get a hunting or fishing license?

Then come talk to the **experts!!** You will have the opportunity to talk with representatives from various **federal** and **state** agencies that offer benefits, preference and assistance to veterans, their dependents and survivors. Representatives will be available to answer your questions, assist you with claims, and provide information on their programs. **Bring your DD 214!!** **Veterans service organizations**, including the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs, will also be available. **Area Colleges and Universities** will be present to discuss their educational programs. (VA Medical and Regional Office Center, Wilmington, DE, 1-800-461-8262 x 5331)

TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO BE CUT BY HALF

A program that helps soldiers make the transition to civilian life is about to be slashed by more than half. The Army plans to cut \$16 million of the \$29 million it has been spending annually on the transition assistance program known as Army Career and Alumni Program, or ACAP. The funding would be eliminated by fiscal year 2000. The plan would then run on the \$13 million annual contribution from the Defense Department, with no supplemental Army money, a move some say will have a severe impact on its effectiveness. The program provides counseling and employment assistance for soldiers leaving the Army. Mandated by law for all the services, transition programs help service members translate their military experience into civilian skills, teaching them job interview techniques, resume writing and other job-search skills. The Army was the only service branch that put extra money into the program. **Full range of services to continue** "Senior leadership had to make some tough decisions with limited resources," said David Keltner, assistant deputy for education and transition policy for the Army. "The Army will

continue to provide a full range of services with the funds provided." Partly because of the funding cut, the Army is re-examining its philosophy and policies for the transition assistance program, according to a May 28, 1998, memorandum signed by Jayson L. Spiegel, acting assistant secretary of the Army for manpower and reserve affairs. In that memorandum, he asked the deputy chief of staff personnel to establish and chair a senior policy review council to assess the Army Career and Alumni Program and make recommendations on where to make the cuts. The council also will review the spouse employment programs offered by the Army and could recommend that family member employment programs be combined with transition assistance programs. And the services offered at base retirement offices will be reviewed by the council. "The Army's commitment to transition assistance is as strong as ever," Keltner said. There may be reductions in the range of services offered and in the number of locations where those services are offered, Keltner said. Or the policy council could recommend that senior leadership review its decision to make the cuts, he said. The Army council will make its recommendations to Spiegel by Aug. 30. The Army review was prompted, in part, by the ongoing work of the Commission on Servicemembers and Veterans Transition Assistance, a congressionally mandated commission that is reviewing all Defense and Veterans Affairs programs. One defense official said she expects the Army will offer less one-on-one counseling and do more group counseling, which is how the other services run their programs. "Nobody will be turned away," she said. "They'll still be able to accommodate everyone." The Defense Department puts \$40 million a year into transition assistance programs. The funding is expected to remain stable over the next few years, according to defense officials. "There's no question the Army had a better program," said one source familiar with the issue, but it needed a good program. It has more people leaving and Air Force and Navy personnel more often have skills that easily translate into civilian jobs, the source said. **Another reduction in benefits** An internal Army report predicted the cuts would most seriously affect junior soldiers and soldiers overseas, and that transition offices at 55 bases serving more than 100,000 soldiers would be closed or dramatically reduced in size. "Soldiers and family members will perceive the virtual elimination of ACAP as a reduction of benefits," the report stated. The funding cut is "unfortunate," said Anthony Principi, chairman of the Commission on Servicemembers and Veterans Transition Assistance. He said he will raise the issue with the commission and look into the impact on the program. "I appreciate the funding difficulties the services have, but I hope they realize the importance of this program," Principi said. The commission is considering a recommendation to put more money into transition assistance programs.

Recommendations will be made to Congress in late October or early November, Principi said. "We clearly want to see the investment across the services equalized so that every service member has the same opportunity to attend pre-separation seminars and counseling," he said. There's an imbalance in access now, especially in some remote areas and on ships. Principi said that service members who go through transition assistance programs are more likely to praise the military to others when they leave. "It's been a great program, very cost effective," Principi said. (Army Times, June 15, 1998)

LOST INTEREST

Military Officials report that recruiting is getting tougher as service-age youths have less interest in the military. Advertising budgets for the military are increasing, and recruiters are working harder to fill the ranks. Members of Congress are getting a sense of what military recruiters face. Rep. Gerald Solomon, R-NY, said March 20, 1998, that he used to get 100 applications a year for appointments to the service academies, but the number has dropped to 20 or 30 a year. "That is because they know that they cannot depend on a career in the military," Solomon said. Defense officials said it appears the Army and Navy will miss their recruiting goals this year, adding to gaps in the ranks that make the rest of the force work harder. More money will have to be poured into recruiting, and a strong effort made to keep top-caliber people in the force, to avoid serious problems. (Army Times, June 15, 1998)

PRESIDENT SIGNS DIC REINSTATEMENT

On June 9, 1998, President Clinton signed H.R. 2400, the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century (TEA-21) which includes a few veterans benefits and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) reinstatement. DIC reinstatement is effective October 1, 1998. The rate of DIC depends on whether the veteran husband died before January 1, 1993, under the "Old Law DIC" or died on or after January 1, 1993, under "New Law DIC". The Old Law is based on rank, whereas the New Law is a flat rate for all rates and ranks currently at \$850/month. Old Law survivors of veterans E-1 through E-6 are eligible for the New Law flat rate. There is no retroactive pay. DIC is paid to the surviving spouse of service members who die in the line of duty or of service-connected disabilities. On November 1, 1990, Congress took away DIC reinstatement for remarried widows as a cost savings measure. Previously, if a DIC widow remarried, she could reapply for benefits after the end of her second marriage. Widows and widowers who may qualify for DIC reinstatement should go to their VA regional office and submit a claim even if such a claim has been denied in the past. Call the VA at toll-free number 1-800-827-1000 for the nearest VA regional office. All widows and remarried widows who are eligible for DIC may also call Gold Star Wives of America for information. Please contact Gold Star Wives National Office, P.O. Box

361986, Birmingham, AL 35236-1986, toll-free no. 1-888-751-6350 or 205/823-1778, fax 205/823-2760, E-mail: gsw@zebra.net or GSW web page at: <http://www.zebra.net/~gsw>. (Rose Lee, Chairman of the Board, Gold Star Wives, July 5, 1998)

INCREASE IN VA EDUCATION PAYMENTS APPROVED

Legislation signed by the President June 9, 1998, increases by 20 percent Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) monthly education payments to veterans who enrolled in the active duty or reserve components of the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB). Effective October 1, 1998, the full-time rate for MGIB-Active Duty enrollees with three years' service increases to \$528 from \$439.85. For a full 36 months, the total amount goes from \$15,834.60 to \$19,008. The rate for those with two years' service increases to \$429 from \$357.38, or a total of \$15,444 from \$12,865.68. Also, Vietnam Era GI Bill enrollees who converted to the MGIB-Active Duty program will see their monthly rates increase to \$716 from \$627.85, or a total of \$25,776 from \$22,602.60. MGIB-Selected Reserve trainees will get a monthly rate increase to \$251 from \$208.93, or a total of \$9,036 from \$7,521.48. Other veterans' benefits improved under the law and taking effect October 1 include:

- ◆ The one-time allowance for disabled veterans needing modified controls or wheelchair lifts for an automobile increases to a maximum \$8,000 from \$5,500.
- ◆ The one-time specially adapted housing grant for disabled veterans who have lost, or lost the use of, both lower extremities increases to \$43,000 from \$38,000.
- ◆ The special housing adaptation grant for veterans who are blind or have lost, or lost the use of, both hands increases to \$8,250 from \$6,500.
- ◆ A \$50-a-month increase in pensions paid to low-income veterans in need of regular aid and attendance was also approved.

The law also repeals a 1990 law that permanently terminated eligibility for dependency and indemnity compensation for a veteran's survivor who remarried. The pre-1990 policy that takes effect October 1, 1998, allows benefits to be restored if the marriage is terminated. (Intergovernmental Affairs, 6/15/98)

VA ANNOUNCES SECOND STRAIGHT REDUCTION IN SGLI PREMIUM RATES

For the second consecutive year, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is reducing the monthly premium rate for Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI). Effective July 1, 1998, VA will decrease the SGLI rate from 8.5 cents per \$1,000 of coverage to 8 cents. VA reduced the rate from 9 cents to 8.5 cents July 1, 1997. Both reductions are due to the decreasing death rate of SGLI members. SGLI is available to

members of the U.S. armed forces and its reserve components and to the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The newest change means that the monthly premium for a servicemember with the maximum SGLI coverage of \$200,000 will decrease from \$17 to \$16, a savings of \$26 million to the servicemembers. Some 97 percent of servicemembers, or a total of 2.3 million, carry more than \$449 billion in SGLI coverage. More than 90 percent take the maximum \$200,000 in coverage. Servicemembers insured by SGLI are guaranteed the right to convert their coverage to Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI) when they separate from service. (Intergovernmental Affairs, 6/15/98)

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION ENROLLMENT CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

Estimated Enrollment Letter Mail Schedule:

<u>Priority Group</u>	<u>Estimated Mailing Dates*</u>
1	Jun 29 - Jul 17
2	Jul 6 - Jul 31
3	Jul 13 - Aug 14
4	Jul 20 - Aug 21
5	Jul 20 - Sep 15
6	Sep 7 - Sep 15
7	Sep 7 - Sep 15

* Subject to change. Confirmation letters to veterans who are enrolled in VA's healthcare system will be sent out based on the above timeline. On June 29, 1998, Veterans Health Administration will open a new toll-free hotline number at 1-877-222-VETS (1-877-222-8387). The hotline will be open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Saturday. Continue to use the toll-free 1-800-827-1000 number for veterans benefits inquiries.

VA MEDICAL BENEFITS UPDATE

Requests for eligibility updates, information on health benefits, or veterans who wish to add their names to the Millsboro Clinic should contact the Eligibility Office at 1-800-461-8262, ext. 5212. Requests for completion of forms and any and all releases of information from our hospital should be referred to the Release of Information Office, ext. 4003. For additional information, contact Malvina Cloonan, ext. 5243. Problems with missing medical records can be referred to Sam Kalb.

SENATE PASSES McCAIN AMENDMENT TO RESTORE VETERANS HEALTH CARE FUNDING

--Provides VA \$3 Billion Over 5 Years--

The U.S. Senate today unanimously passed an amendment offered by Senator John McCain (R-AZ) that would provide

the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) with \$3 billion over five years to help reimburse the costs of health care activities for tobacco-related illnesses and disabilities. Additionally, this amendment would provide for smoking cessation care to veterans from various programs established under the National Tobacco Policy and Smoking Reduction Act, S. 1415, currently pending in the U.S. Senate. "Our nation's veterans should not be excluded from payments by tobacco companies for health care costs associated with tobacco-related diseases. The failure to address the tobacco-related illnesses and disabilities of our men and women who faithfully served their country in uniform would be fundamentally wrong," said McCain. The amendment would provide the VA with \$600 million a year over 5 years – for a total of \$3 billion – to spend on tobacco-related health care illnesses and disabilities, and directs the VA Secretary to assist such veterans as deemed appropriate. The McCain amendment would restore a significant portion of the veterans funding that was stripped from the VA in the budget resolution to pay for highway projects in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1998 (ISTEA). "The shifting of critical veterans funding to perpetuate donor state inequity and support the pork barrel spending in the massive highway bill is egregious," said McCain, a conferee on ISTEA. The Senator refused to support and sign the ISTEA conference report for a number of reasons, particularly because of his objection to shifting critical veterans funding to support pork barrel spending in the highway bill. McCain's amendment passed Tuesday evening on a voice vote. (U.S. Senator John McCain Press Release, June 2, 1998)

QTC WINS VA PILOT PROGRAM CONTRACT

QTC Medical Group, Inc. has been awarded a contract by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to conduct medical examinations of individuals who have filed claims for VA disability benefits. QTC successfully competed with other firms for the VA program, which is a pilot project authorized last year by Congress. The intent of the pilot program is to evaluate the effect of contracting medical examinations from non-VA medical sources to determine eligibility for VA disability compensation and pension benefits. QTC is a firm with extensive experience conducting medical exams for government organizations and for insurance disability claims, providing approximately one million evaluations since the firm was formed in 1981. According to Steeve Kay, QTC president, "This is the firm's first work with the Department of Veterans Affairs. QTC has built its reputation on its commitment to quality, and therefore we are especially pleased to be given this chance to build a partnership with the VA's Veterans Benefit Administration by providing U.S. veterans with quality examinations." VA regional offices in Atlanta, Boston, Los Angeles, Salt Lake City, San Diego, Wichita, Kansas, and Winston-Salem, North Carolina, will participate

in the pilot program with a portion of the examinations for these offices performed by QTC. QTC, founded over 17 years ago to provide disability examinations and residual functional capability assessments, is today the premier provider of high quality, high volume evaluation services in the nation. QTC is headquartered in Diamond Bar, California. (QTC Medical Services, Inc., May 14, 1998)

VA SIGNS M.O.U. TO PROVIDE VETERANS MEDICAL AIRLIFT SERVICE

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced plans to join forces with the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and the National 210 Owners Association, a national private pilots group, to provide special air transport services for VA patients. The agreement was finalized today with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding among the three organizations at DAV headquarters in Washington, D.C. "Today's signing is another step toward meeting an important VA goal – making our health-care facilities more accessible to all of our veterans who are eligible to use them," VA Deputy Secretary Hershel Gober said. "Thanks to DAV and the National 210 Owners Association, veterans will now be transported quickly, comfortably and easily." Under the terms of the agreement, the National 210 Owners Association, through its American Veterans' Medical Airlift Service (AVMAS) division, will recruit qualified and certified pilots, provide the aircraft and pilot, and secure the transport services as needed. DAV, through its transportation network, will provide ground transportation from patient's homes to the airport and back, and from the airport to the VA medical center. The chief of staff of the treating VA medical center is responsible for requesting the air transport service, arrangements for which will be coordinated by VA. According to the agreement, only flights which can be completed during daylight hours and in good weather will be undertaken. The agreement was signed by Thomas L. Garthwaite, M.D., VA's Deputy Under Secretary for Health; Jan Du Plain, Director of the AVMAS Washington Office; and David W. Gorman, DAV Executive Director. VA's health-care system has 172 hospitals nationwide in addition to hundreds of satellite outpatient clinics. (Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Public Affairs, June 30, 1998)

SUPPORT FOR CONCURRENT RECEIPT

Our legislators fail to realize, that they would gain more than they would lose by correcting the existing inequity [that requires more than 400,000 disabled military retirees to give up their retired pay in order to receive their VA disability compensation]. The money [Congress] would lose for pet projects would instead go to deserving veterans in their home districts, and it would be spent there. This money would help stimulate the economy in their districts. Additionally, when it came time for reelection they would have the support of the

entire retired military community. This is a significant number of voters, particularly when you consider the large number of family members who also vote. You can bet your bottom dollar they do not have this segment of support now. Any legislation that would provide equity in this area, as well as legislation that would restore the promised benefits that were unfairly taken from us, the benefits we worked and sacrificed so long for, would go a long way toward regaining the needed support of the retired military. Many of our elected representatives wonder why the military is constantly lowering recruiting standards. The answer is simple: military recruiters are in serious trouble. Prospective recruits, as well as members presently on active duty, can see the way retired military personnel are treated. They are not flocking to enlist, and they are not reenlisting. In the past, the retired military community was allied with the recruiters. Today, the retired military no longer gives the recruiters the same support. I personally can no longer recommend a military career or military service to young people, and I do not know of any retired military personnel who will. I wonder if our representatives are able to see any correlation between the quality of the recruit being accepted by the military and the increasing disciplinary problems in the military, the problems we are finding highlighted on the front pages of our major newspapers. The ripple effect of bringing the fight for equity to a successful conclusion would have far reaching rewards for all concerned. I, and the 400,000 other disabled veterans retired from the military are asking for your support. (Stanley McKay, US Navy (Ret.), DAV, March/April 1998)

PURPLE HEART MEDAL

Veterans who believe that they are entitled to an award of the Purple Heart Medal (PH) for wounds received as a result of enemy actions can submit their individual cases to the Purple Heart Review Board (PHRB). Requests must be submitted in writing to the National Personnel Records Center at the address listed in the preceding news items. The Purple Heart is a criteria based award that does not require written recommendation and has no time limit for submission. Each request is separately considered based upon policies and criteria in effect at the time the veteran was wounded. In order to determine a veteran's entitlement to the Purple Heart, specific information must be provided the PHRB. Contact you local county veterans service officer for assistance. (Mississippi State Veterans Affairs Board, January-March 1998)

SOUTHERN DELAWARE HEALTH SCREENINGS

Health screenings will be conducted at the following locations from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM in Kent and Sussex Counties:

JUL 21	Smyrna American Legion Post 14	653-6454
JUL 28	Dover American Legion Post 2	674-3922

AUG 12 Rehoboth VFW Post 7447	227-3469
AUG 13 Oceanview VFW Post 7234	539-9981
AUG 18 Dover American Legion Post 2	674-3922
AUG 20 Riverdale American Legion Post 28	945-1673
SEP 8 Smyrna American Legion Post 14	653-6454
SEP 10 Laurel American Legion Post 19	875-9948
SEP 17 Oceanview VFW Post 7234	539-9981
SEP 22 Dover American Legion Post 2	674-3922
SEP 24 Riverdale American Legion Post 28	945-1673

For more information contact Clyde Bragg, R.N., Outreach Health Screening Nurse at (302) 633-5331 or (800) 461-8262.

VETERANS MEDICAL BENEFITS APPLICATION

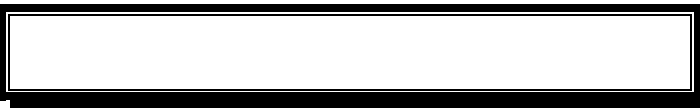
The Veterans Administration encourages all veterans to register for Medical Benefits. You may obtain the forms from the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs in Dover, (800) 344-9900/(302) 739-2792 or at your local VA Regional office, (800) 827-1000. The information will be data entered into the Veterans Administration computer system, which enables the Veterans Administration to better serve all veterans.

AIR FORCE LODGING

New Toll-Free Reservation Number!

Air Force Lodging now offers a toll-free number for lodging reservations in the continental United States: **1-888-AF LODGE (1-888-235-6343)**. After dialing this number, you will hear a message that will ask for the first three digits of the base where you wish to make reservations. **For example:** If you would like to make a lodging reservation at Randolph AFB, simply dial RAN (726), and you will be directed to the lodging office at Randolph AFB. **Air Force Lodging Directory:** The printed Air Force Lodging Directory with DSN and commercial phone numbers for overseas lodging facilities will continue to be available to you, as well. **Reservations By Computer:** Air Force Lodging is currently purchasing a property management system which will, in the future, allow travelers to make lodging reservations directly from their office computer.

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION TO DELAWARE VETERANS



In January 1946, Walter W. Bacon, then elected Governor, authorized a state award to those who served in World War II. To honor this commitment to Delaware Veterans, Governor Thomas R. Carper has announced that the State of Delaware will provide a "Certificate of Appreciation" to all Delaware residents who shall have served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United States during time of peace, conflict or war. To request a "Certificate of Appreciation" the veteran/spouse or next of kin must submit the enclosed application (see page 11) along with a copy of veterans Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, (DD Form 214). **DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL.** If you are a member of a veterans organization we recommend that you send your requests through them so they may be consolidated. The 8 1/2 X 11 inch certificate, suitable for framing, is printed in black lettering on parchment paper, has a gold border and the Delaware State Seal is depicted in the background. The embossed gold seal of the Commission of Veterans Affairs is attached in the lower right hand corner.

MERCHANT MARINE BONUS

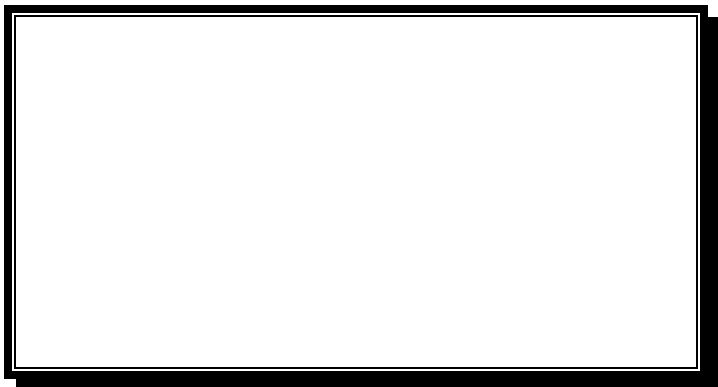
If you served between December 7, 1941, to August 15, 1945, you could be eligible for a Merchant Marine Bonus approved by the Delaware legislature (Application is on page 9). Contact the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs at (800) 344-9900 or (302) 739-2792 for more information.

STATE VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER

Mr. Harry J. Sanchez, a State Veterans Service Officer, is available to offer information and assist in submitting claims for all veterans and their dependents in matters concerning education, disability compensation, hospitalization, rehabilitation and pensions. For more information, Mr. Sanchez can be reached at the following telephone numbers or e-mail addresses: (302) 739-7447 (M-F 8:00 AM-4:30 PM), (800) 344-9900 voice mailbox #129 (24 hrs) e-mail: harry.sanchez@dol.net.

ATTENTION ALL SUSSEX COUNTY VETERANS

The Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs located in Dover will provide information and assistance in submitting all types of claims for veterans and their families residing in Sussex County, DE. Mr. Harry J. Sanchez, an accredited State Veterans Service Officer, will be available at the Pyle State Service Center located in Roxanna, DE. You may visit with Harry on the last Monday of each month between the hours of



10:00 am and 2:00pm. For further information, and/or an appointment you may call toll free at 1-800-344-9900 anytime.

COMMISSION MEETINGS

The Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs meets the fourth Tuesday of each month, 11:00 am, Old State House - The Green, Dover, DE. The meeting schedule varies for December and June of each year. These meetings are open to the public. If you would like to attend, please call 1-800-344-9900 or 302-739-2792.

OUTREACH SERVICES

American Veterans (AMVETS)

Michael Companion, National Service Officer, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Highway, Wilmington, DE 19805 (302) 994-2511 ext.4366.

Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

Charles Kashner and Joe Kehne, Dept. Service Officers (DAV), (302) 697-9061 or (302) 697-3335 (Kent County).

Every Wednesday: DAV Headquarters Building
(Kent) 138 South Street

Camden, DE 19934

Every Thursday: Dept. of Labor
(Sussex) Div. of Emp & Trng
Georgetown Professional Park
600 N. DuPont Hwy.
Georgetown, DE 19947

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)

James Withrow, Dept. Service Officer, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Highway, Room 21, Wilmington, DE 19805 (800) 461-8262 ext. (302) 633-5326.

1ST Thursday Dover Armory (741-7516) 8:00-11:00 AM
Milford VFW (422-4412) 1:30-4:00 PM

2nd Thursday Dover Armory (741-7516) 8:00-11:00 AM
Milton VFW (684-4975) 1:30-4:00 PM

3rd Thursday Dover Armory (741-7516) 8:00-11:00 AM
Rehoboth VFW (227-3469) 1:30-4:00 PM

4th Thursday Dover Armory (741-7516) 8:00-11:00 AM
Seaford VFW (629-3092) 1:30-4:00 PM

5th Thursday Dover Armory (741-7516) 8:00-11:00 AM
Georgetown VFW (856-6098) 1:30-4:00 PM

American Legion

Billy R. Hughes, Dept. Service Officer, (302) 633-5323, will visit the following posts between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM on the following dates.

JUL 24 Seaford, Post 6 629-9915

JUL 31 Dover, Post 2 674-3922

AUG 7 Laurel, Post 19 875-9948

AUG 14 Oak Orchard/Riverdale,

	Post 28	945-1673
AUG 21	Seaford, Post 6	629-9915
AUG 28	Dover, Post 2	674-3922

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

Claims, Benefits, Veterans Services

(Regional Office).....1-800-827-1000

General purpose, Hospital Scheduling,

Transportation, etc.....1-800-461-8262 / 944-2511

Veterans Outreach Center

(New Castle County).....633-5360

(Kent and Sussex County).....422-8011

DELAWARE VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY

Wesley R. Jones, Cemetery Administrator.....834-8046

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

American Legion.....633-5323

Disabled American Veterans.....633-5324

Paralyzed Veterans of America.....633-5325

Veterans of Foreign Wars.....633-5326

Vietnam Veterans of America.....633-5357

Veterans of World War I.....998-9744

AMVETS.....1-800-344-9900

(#123)

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

James A. Platt (Wilmington).....302-761-8096

Desiree Young (Wilmington).....302-761-8093

Mitchel Vance (Newark).....302-453-4350 ext. 218

Mike Wolanski (VA Regional Office, Elsmere).302-633-5492

Jim Wilson (Dover).....302-739-5473

David White (Dover AFB).....302-677-6942

Scottie Williams (Dover).....302-739-5473

John Lapps (Georgetown).....302-856-5230

DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS SERVICES

Individuals can be reached by calling toll free 1-800-344-9900, and entering their voice mail box number at the prompt:

BOX

Veterans Cemetery.....115

Veterans Service Officer.....129

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Mr. Charles A. Kashner, Chairman.....114

Date of Birth _____ Social Security Number _____ Service Number _____

Type of Discharge _____ Highest Rank Achieved _____

(only required if requesting rank
on certificate)

LEGAL RESIDENT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

To meet the legal residency requirement (in addition to honorable military service) the veteran must have been:

- a. A legal resident of Delaware when he or she entered the Armed Forces of the United States; or
- b. A legal resident of Delaware at time of death

Please submit this application and a copy of Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, (DD-214) to:

Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs
25 The Green - Old State House
Dover, DE 19901
Phone: (302) 739-2792 or 1-800 344-9900 (In state only)

Signature of Veteran/spouse or next of kin _____ Date _____

Relationship if not veteran _____

NOTE: Please anticipate 4 to 6 weeks in receiving your Certificate

TO BE COMPLETED BY DCVA

____ Approved ____ Pending ____ Disapproved

Name _____ Date _____

Title _____

DCVA FORM 20-01-95-04-01

STATE OF DELAWARE

"Serving Delaware's Veterans"

Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs

25 The Green - Old State House

Dover, Delaware 19901

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DCVA 20-01-98-07-01